

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:254  
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2002  
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING NOMADIC TRIBES  
NIVEDITA MANE;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

**Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the Constitution Review Commission headed by Justice Venkatchaliah has given certain recommendations in regard to a large number of nomadic tribes in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations and the nomadic tribes identified;
- (c) whether the Government are contemplating to implement the said recommendations of the Commission;
- (d) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI)

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IS REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 254 TO BE ANSWERED ON 5.12.2002

- (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) A copy of the said recommendations is enclosed.

(c) The recommendations have been forwarded to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for being examined and processed. As per information received from Ministries of Tribal Affairs and Social Justice & Empowerment the nomadic tribes have been categorized as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes etc. based on their socio-economic conditions in the respective states & UTs. Though there is no specific earmarking of funds exclusively under the category of denotified tribes but they are entitled to benefits/concessions available under various schemes of the government in accordance with their categorization as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes as the case may be.

- (d)&(e) Since development of such groups is a continuous process, no time frame can be set for this purpose.

**ANNEXURE**

**RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION TO REVIEW THE WORKING OF THE CONSTITUTION**

**Denotified Tribes/Communities and Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes/Communities**

10.12.1 The denotified tribes/communities have been wrongly stigmatized as crime prone and subjected to high handed treatment as well as exploitation by the representatives of law and order as well as by the general society. Some of them are included in the list of Scheduled Tribes and others are in the list of Scheduled Castes and list of backward classes. The special approach to their development has been delineated and emphasized in the Reports of the Working Groups for the Development of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in successive Plans and also in the Annual Reports of the Commissioners for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the National Commission for Backward Classes. There are also special reports available on denotified tribes. Their recommendations have not received attention. The Commission recommends that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Welfare should collate all these materials and recommendations contained in the reports of the working groups and the reports of the National Commissions and other reports referred to and strengthen the programmes for the economic development, educational development, generation of employment opportunities, social liberation and full rehabilitation of denotified tribes. Whatever has been said about vimuktajatis also holds good for nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities. The Commission recommends similar action in

respect of nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities as done in the case of de-notified tribes or vimuktajatis. The continued plight of these groups of communities distributed in the list of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward classes is an eloquent illustration of the failure of the machinery for planning, financial resources allocation and budgeting and administration in the country to seriously follow the mandate of the Constitution including Article 46. The Commission also points out that the setting up of an integrated net work of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Authority, etc. recommended in para 10.5.2 to 10.5.3 above will provide a structural mechanism to deal in a practical way with the vimuktajatis as well as nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities within the frame work of the SCP and TsP. Similarly the approach to the development of backward classes referred to at para 10.14 below contains the approach to deal in a practical way with the Vimuktajatis and nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities who are in Backward Class list.

10.12.2 The Commission also considered the representations made on behalf of the De-notified and Nomadic Tribal Rights Action Group and decided to forward them to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment with the suggestion that they may examine the same preferably through a Commission.